The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

Entered as second-class matter September 30, 1913, at the Post Office at Washington, D. C., under the Act of August 24, 1912. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Sec. 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized July 11, 1918.

Humanity always becomes a conqueror.—Sheridan.

WHOLE NO. 1000. WILLIAM GREEN, President WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, JUNE 7, 1930 FRANK MORRISON, Secretary VOL. 20, NO. 13.

INJUNCTION JUGGLERY PROTESTED BY GREEN

Washington, June 7.—"Organized labor is amazed at the Senate Judiciary Committee's action in referring the anti-injunction bill to the Attorney General," said Wm. Green, president A. F. of L.

"Not even an obscure reason was assigned for this unprecedented action," said Mr. Green. "All members of the committee who voted to refer to the Attorney General this injunction relief bill, in which labor is tremendously interested, have high legal attainments.

"Friends of this injunction-relief bill believe the committee's action was prompted by an obvious desire to delay action on this proposed legislation and prevent its passage before the adjournment of Congress.

"There is an intense public interest in this measure. Senate discussion on the 'yellow dog' contract has aroused public interest. Labor is promised relief from the abuse of the use of the writ of injunction in declarations contained in both political party platforms.

"This injunction-relief bill has been pending before Congress for two years. No legislation has been so thoroughly studied and investigated. Numerous hearings have been held and the bill represents the best judgment of an eminent sub-committee of the Judiciary Committee, composed of Senators Norris, Walsh (Mont.) and Blaine.

"It is the purpose of labor representatives to call upon the Senate Judiciary Committee to meet its responsibilities and vote upon a final report of the anti-injunction bill without further delay."

MEN NEED COURAGE, BORAH TELLS YOUTH

Washington, June 7.—"Young men fail to win and hold popular confidence because they lack that higher faith which puts aside temporary advantage for permanent achievements," said Senator Borah in a radio address on "The Graduate."

The Idaho lawmaker pleaded with the thousands of young men who are leaving schools to have courage and insist on their ideals.

"Do not be afraid of being called a radical," said Senator Borah. "A radical in these days is one who believes in the Constitution of the United States, one who will not barter his principles for the sake of so-called party regularity, and who will not, for the sake of being with the majority.

"Political parties and organizations have their place and a very important place. But they are not entitled to control the judgment and conscience of those who sincerely believe that the party method is wrong. 'Trust thyself. Every heart vibrates to that iron string.'

"There is not a crooked interest; there is not a special privilege, there is not an ill-gotten dollar, there is not a vested wrong, but are constantly crying out for regularity, for leaving things as they are, for the status quo.

"These political machines are most of them enemies of free government. The history of the world in every age and of all times teaches that the selfish, corrupt, political chicanery can not stand up in the long run against fundamental moral courage, intelligently and perseveringly directed."

CONGRESS UPSETS PRESIDENT'S VETO

Washington, June 7.—President Hoover was given one of the hardest defeats in legislative history when Congress upset his veto of a bill that would liberalize pensions for Spanish-American War veterans. The vote against the veto is believed to be the largest on record.

This was the President's first veto defeat and action by the Senate, which is supposed to be administration controlled, is significant.

The vote in the Senate was 61 to 18 and in the House 298 to 14. The President's reference to the need for "pauperism" before this pension could be applied, was resented in both branches.

"We give millions for ship subsidies, yet when we come to the men who have bared their breasts to enemy bullets we say to them they must prove themselves pauper," declared Senator Norris.

In a tart statement following the veto upset, the President denied the "pauper" charge. He said he favored a "workable" penison.

STUDY OF DRAFT PLAN FOR PROPERTY VOTED

Washington, June 7.—A commission to consider amendment of the Constitution to provide taking over private property for use by Congress in time of war, was voted by the Senate.

The resolution declares "that said commission shall not recommend and shall not report upon the conscription of labor."

Such study of conscription of labor is unnecessary, as the principle was finally established in the World War by an act of Congress.

The resolution as presented called for a study of a constitutional amendment that will provide that "private property may be taken by Congress for public use without profit during war."

On motion of Senator Dill the words "without profit" were stricken out.

VOTE ON 6-HOUR DAY

St. Louis, June 7.—More than 18,000 organized building craftsmen in this city will vote on the six-hour day as a means of reducing unemployment. The vote will be taken under direction of the Building Trades Council.

SENATORS PLAY HUMILIATING ROLE

The Senate Judiciary Committee is composed of 17 lawyers, many of whom are constitutional students.

This committee considers intricate legislative proposals and prepares bills that will stand court tests, so far as it is possible for a group of skilled lawyers to take such action.

The submission of proposed legislation to the Attorney General of the United States was an unknown procedure—until the pending anti-labor injunction bill was thus disposed of. Chairman Norris of the committee says this reference has blocked action at the present session.

The Attorney General is the head of the Department of Justice. He represents the Federal Government before the Supreme Court in matters of exceptional gravity, has general superintendence over Federal district attorneys and Federal marshals, and gives advice and opinions when requested by the President or by the heads of the various executive departments.

It is not his duty to pass on the legality of proposed legislation, except where it involves purely administrative procedure.

The Senate committee's action is evasive and is contrary to the prerogatives, high ideals and traditions of the Senate.

This reference to the Attorney General is acceptable to defenders of government by injunction and others who would destroy the law-making branch by centralizing power in the President and his appointees.

Plans are now being quietly discussed for the creation of a commission that will pass upon important legislation before final action by Congress.

This "commissionizing" of America is another name for Mussolini's system. The committee's action can be used as a precedent that will advance this revolutionary policy.

The so-called labor injunction is not a "labor" question. Equity (injunction) courts are extending their power and are being substituted in every direction for government by law.

Citizens who are indifferent to labor's fight to end this evil will discover that they have paid a costly price for taking no part in this struggle.

The committee's action may haunt indifferent citizens.

These Senators have lowered the high dignity of the Senate and have played into the hands of reaction by weakening the foundation of this law-making structure.

Dodging responsibilities is a dangerous expedient when a surrender of prerogatives is involved.

STOCKHOLDERS ARE PROTECTED; WHY NOT HAVE WAGE RESERVE?

Washington, June 7.—"Industry sets aside a reserve to assure dividends in lean years and depression periods, and if a similar reserve was set up for wage payments, unemployment would be well on its way to solution," says the "Monthly Survey of Business," issued by A. F. of L.

The bulletin calls attention to this suggestion by Morris E. Leeds, Philadelphia manufacturer, at the annual meeting of the United States Chamber of Commerce:

"Unemployment must be met by developing in American industry a sense of responsibility for keeping wage earners at work just as for maintaining dividend payments."

"One of the chief causes of the present depression," says Monthly Bulletin, "is that last year our industries produced far more than the public could buy. In 31 industries, 572 plants began 1930 with stocks of goods averaging 11.5 per cent higher than in 1929. In several industries stocks were over 30 per cent higher. These are large increases and the surplus goods must be sold before production resumes its normal course.

"Business men's groups are talking curtailment of production, but the way to further growth is by increasing the public buying power. There are 5,000,000 families in the United States whose incomes do not allow them enough food, clothing, housing and other essentials to live in health and efficiency. There are 4,500,000 more who can only buy bare essentials of living. Here are 9,500,000 who would gladly be customers of our industries, if their standard of living should be one of the first tasks of our advancing civilization. There are 7,000,000 families who have no automobiles, 13,000,000 who have no telephones, 4,000,000 who have not even adequate plumbing in their homes.

"It has been the custom of American firms to 'plow back' excess earnings into the industry to build new plant and equipment. Industry now needs to plow back its excess profits into the consuming market by providing higher incomes for wage earners. Since profits of American corporations have been increasing at the rate of 13 per cent a year since 1922, it would be possible to make quite an impression on the consuming market if a portion were plowed back in wage increases.

"In the same years, production increased 5.3 per cent a year and workers' incomes 2.7 per cent yearly. Clearly, wages have not increased about twice as fast as wage earners' power to buy.

"Mass production requires mass purchasing power."

SOUTHERN WORKERS HEAR UNION STORY

Birmingham, Ala., June 7.—Trade union mass meetings in various Southern areas continue to be well attended, according to reports to A. F. of L. Southern representatives.

The doctrine of self-help and self-reliance that is stressed by labor organizers is the kind that appeals to workers who have been reared in an opposite environment.

"Our campaign is educational as well as an organizing effort," said Paul J. Smith, chairman A. F. of L. Southern organizing committee. "We receive requests almost daily for speakers to assist in these educational mass meetings and our best organized units develop out of these efforts."

Many merchants in the Gadsden and Anniston (Ala.) district have made public avowal of their faith in organized labor. These merchants had a disastrous experience with the low-wage, anti-union system that reduces the purchasing power of workers.

Danville, Va., reports a labor chautauqua, where the message of labor will be told. The plan is attracting general attention and will be copied elsewhere.

Trade unionists in charge of the Southern campaign frankly declare that their fight is a long, easy one, but they point to substantial gains that are being made, and they insist that a lasting foundation, in the form of education, is laid for the future.

HOUSE VOTES LEASE FOR MUSCLE SHOALS

Washington, June 7.—The House rejected the Senate proposal for government operation of Muscle Shoals, long urged by Senator Norris.

The House favored leasing the nitrate and power properties on the Tennessee River to private interests, through a leasing board appointed by the President.

The House vote is a reversal of two years ago, when government operation was favored.

"DOG" DEFENDERS STAND PAT, CUR PROCESS IS HELD "LEGAL"

Washington, June 7.—Defense of the "yellow dog" features briefs filed by employers' lawyers with the Senate Judiciary Committee in opposition to labor's injunction relief measure.

The attorneys are James A. Emery of the National Association of Manufacturers, Daniel Davenport, Walter Gordon Merritt and Charles E. Wyzanski, Jr. They filed a list of nearly 100 employers' organizations that he represents.

Recent publicity against the "yellow dog" means nothing to these attorneys and their backers who appreciate the anti-labor value of such an alleged contract.

The "yellow dog" is referred to as a contract that must be protected by equity. The attorneys record a 100 per cent opposition to the entire anti-injunction bill. There is not a single sentence or paragraph that is acceptable to them.

"Consede nothing, lest it encourage trade unionists," is the policy of these attorneys and their employers. The attorneys make light of trade union opposition that is so pronounced in many sections of this country. They grudgingly acknowledge that such opposition exists in rare instances, and that, therefore, it is unnecessary for Congress to declare that recognition of trade unions is a sound public policy.

The briefs are as reactionary as if written in the days of the sweat-shop. The employers' lawyers do not give the slightest indication that they or their clients have been affected by a social consciousness that has been developing all these years.

The briefs notify the progressive elements of the nation that these employing interests will contest every effort to hold equity control of labor and to extend government by injunction.

These employers are satisfied with present court practices and decisions that can destroy any strike that interferes with profits.

The briefs continually emphasize the need for "protecting property," but not a single reference is made to human liberty.

DEVELOP HOME MARKETS

Men ignore the unlimited possibilities of our home markets.

They talk of the need for exports and for a gigantic navy and for expensive machinery in the consular service and other units of the Department of Commerce to protect this foreign trade.

If our exports could be increased $1,500,000,000 this would be considered a triumph of statesmanship.

Such an increase in our domestic markets without government aid is possible if wages were increased $1 a week for every wage earner in this country.

An increase of $4 a week would add $5,600,000,000, or enough to keep all our factories busy at their normal rate for more than one additional month.

This development of our domestic market is too simple for statesmen, economists and industrialists. They prefer to befog people with their jargon that veers men from the major cause of depressions.

CRY FOR SHIPS; IGNORE MEN

The average newspaper reader believes that ships is the one essential for an American merchant marine.

Ships are needed for an emergency, is the cry. But no mention is made of the need for trained seamen to handle these vessels.

The government realized this need during the World War when the aid of the Seamen's Union was gladly accepted to induce skilled seamen to return to the sea.

With the passing of the present generation, this reservoir will be exhausted, if conditions continue.

Skilled seamen are not being developed.

Low wages and poor working conditions is the rule in many ships flying the American flag.

The government loans money at a low interest rate to build these ships and the owners are then paid huge subsidies, called "mail contracts," that cover operation costs.

Ship owners frown on the employment of American boys and insist on the employment of the West Indies and South America are easily satisfied.

Sea power is in men, not in ships. This is the history of every maritime nation.

SLAYER OF STRIKER ACQUITTED BY JURY

Philadelphia, June 7. — William Pfeiffer, strikebreaker, was acquitted by a jury of all charges in connection with the killing of Carl Mackley, union hosiery worker, during the H. C. Aberle hosiery mill strike. Charges against the other strikebreakers, who were in Pfeiffer's auto at the time, will probably be dropped.

Testimony showed that occupants of Pfeiffer's car opened fire, killing Mackley and wounding two of his three companions. The bullet that killed the unionist came from Pfeiffer's gun.

"The police were friendly to the defense in this case," said Assistant District Attorney Gordon, who prosecuted the case. "Where is the hammer this defendant and his companions say they saw the dead man have?

"This defendant and his companions denied that they fired any shots into the car ahead or back of theirs. Yet the car in front was riddled with bullets and there is testimony they were the only ones who had revolvers and fired shots. There was no justification in firing the shots. Inspector Magee referred in his testimony to the many arrests during the strike and said not one single case was sent to court. The killing was unlawful and malicious."

Mackley's funeral was one of the largest ever held in this city.

IDLENESS AT PEAK

Philadelphia, June 7.—Unemployment in this city is 40 per cent greater this Spring than it was in the Spring of 1929, according to a survey by the Bureau of Compulsory Education. The probers say unemployment "has passed its peak."

A house-to-house canvass of 36,100 families during the last week in April showed that of the 71,895 employable persons in these families there were 29,377 persons, or 41.7 per cent, who were unable to secure work.

CHECK ON ALIEN TIDE LESSENS DISTRESS

New York, June 7.—"What would be our unemployment situation today if Congress, six years ago, had not passed the immigration quota act?" asked Congressman Albert Johnson of Washington, in a speech in this city.

"Congress should suspend unnecessary immigration from any and all countries, with the possible exception of very near relatives and those now exempt from quota restriction," said Mr. Johnson. "Why should we be permitting workers from foreign lands to work in this country in times of serious unemployment?

"Last week the House Committee on Immigration reported the Harris bill, proposing to apply to Mexico the same quota restrictions now applied to every European country. The Senate passed the Harris bill by an overwhelming vote. I feel sure that the further restriction of immigration from Europe, as well as from the countries of this hemisphere, would pass the House by an even greater vote if allowed to come up for consideration."

Congressman Johnson appealed to his hearers to telegraph Congressman Snell, chairman of the House Rules Committee; Congressman Tilson, majority floor leader, and Speaker Longworth to allow a vote on the Harris bill before adjournment of Congress.

EMPLOYES ARE "STUNG" IN STOCK-BUYING PLAN

Boston, June 7.—Charles L. Baine, editor The Shoe Workers' Journal, warns workers to keep out of stock-buying schemes. The labor editor calls attention to the collapse of a Haverhill shoe concern that sold each employe $300 worth of stock that is now worthless.

Employes' stock buying was the craze following the World War. One Harvard University economist was so enthusiastic over the scheme that he wrote a book on the new "revolution" in which workers would eventually own industry.

Buying stock is a costly gamble in a falling market that only the well-to-do can afford.

To say that it is a "solution" for industrial ills is the talk of men who would lure workers into dangerous paths.

WORLD DEPRESSION SHOWN BY REPORTS

Washington, June 7.—Business depression is world-wide, according to the Department of Commerce. Virtually without exception the government's trade commissioners in Asia, Europe, Latin America and elsewhere report a prevailing dullness of business conditions.

UNKNOWN SOLDIER PICKED BY UNIONIST

Washington, June 7.—Edward S. Younger of Chicago, union postal clerk, sergeant in the American forces in France, and the man who selected America's Unknown Soldier, was swept from obscurity to national prominence when he came to this city on Memorial Day and decorated the Unknown's tomb.

He was beset on every hand by invitations, parades and banquets. He was visited by Thomas F. Flaherty, secretary-treasurer, and other officers of the National Federation of Postal Clerks, of which he is a member.

INSTALL 5-DAY WEEK

Worcester, Mass., June 7.—Organized carpenters are working on the five-day week basis. This action was taken under instructions by a referendum vote of the five local Carpenters' Unions.

LAWYERS WOULD MUZZLE PRESS; WANT EQUITY TO ENJOIN PAPER

Los Angeles, June 7.—The Bar Association of this city wants an injunction gag placed on the Evening Record because that paper discusses questionable methods by a grand jury.

Local newspapers, with one exception, have joined with the Record to fight the injunction gag. The exception is the Los Angeles Times, leading anti-union foe and champion of privilege.

William G. McAdoo, former Secretary of the Treasury under President Wilson, has been retained to fight the gag.

"The fundamental issue is liberty of speech and the press," he said.

"The California Constitution explicitly prohibits the enactment of any law that will restrain or abridge this liberty. Since the legislature is powerless to do it, a tribunal has developed recently to accomplish, through contempt proceedings, restraint of that very liberty, in violation of these constitutional guarantees.

"Liberty itself will be a mere shadow if, through administrative tyranny or any form of censorship, the right to freely speak, write and publish opinion shall be compromised or denied."

STANDARD BEARERS ARE UPHELD; UNIONISTS FIRST IN AUSTRALIA

Washington, June 7.—The Australian government will confine government wage awards to members of trade unions, according to labor papers received at A. F. of L. headquarters from that faraway country. Australia has a system of compulsory wage awards.

The Postal Advocate, official magazine Amalgamated Postal Workers' Union, Australia, says:

"Advice has been received that the Federal Labor government, in accordance with its pre-election declaration, intends to put a stop to the fostering of non-unionists in the federal public service.

"With this object in view, the government has decided, as a matter of policy, that in future the provisions of arbitration awards will be confined strictly to financial members of unions.

"The government has further decided that in any reduction of temporary staffs, non-unionists shall be the first to be discharged.

"The stand taken by the government on the question relating to non-unionists is justifiable.

"Any man who has reached the age of reason, and who, while participating in the benefits won by trade union action, objects to paying the insignificant weekly contribution necessary for the upkeep of the union relating to his calling, should be blacklisted by his fellow-workers.

"Membership in the union is open to all those who wish to meet their obligations. If an employe fails to realize his just obligations in this respect, he can have only himself to blame for the consequences."

SIDETRACK INJUNCTION BILL; REFER TO CABINET MEMBER

Washington, June 7.—The Senate Judiciary Committee, after changing the anti-injunction bill, sent the measure to Attorney General Mitchell for an opinion on its "constitutionality and other legal aspects."

This action, according to Mr. Norris, chairman of the committee, means that in all probability no further action will be taken on the bill at this session.

It is asserted that the purpose of the majority was to delay action, rather than secure additional information on a question that has been before the committee for more than two years.

Legal authorities point out that there is no authority for such reference by the committee.

The motion to send the bill to the Attorney General was made by Senator Steiwer, other Senators who favored this plan were Messrs. Deneen, Gillette, Robinson, Waterman, Hastings, Overman, Stephens.

Opposite were: Messrs. Norris, Borah, Blaine, Ashurst.

The following Senators were absent: Messrs. Blease, Walsh (Mont.), Caraway, King, Dill.

Several changes in the bill were made by the committee. These, it is believed, may widen the scope of equity judges to issue injunctions in labor disputes.

As amended an equity judge will decide whether public officials "have failed" or are unwilling to furnish adequate protection to complainant's property.

The court may also issue an injunction whenever he believes unlawful acts are "threatened" and will be executed" unless restrained.

In the original bill no restraining order could be issued where the complainant failed to comply with obligations imposed by law to settle a dispute. The bill, as amended, permits an injunction in such cases where "irreparable injury is threatened." This permits the employer to ignore every obligation to settle a strike and insist on injunction aid to break the strike because of "irreparable injury."

Labor's request for the elimination that would annul the Bedford cut stone decision (enforcing compulsory labor) and the Truax decision (denying labor the right to withhold patronage) was ignored.

The claim is made that these decisions are covered by the statement, "ceasing or refusing to perform any work or to remain in any relation or employment" can not be enjoined.

PERSONAL VIEWS SWAY HIGH COURT; JURISTS THEMSELVES MAKE CHARGE

Washington, June 7.—Defenders of Judge Parker, both inside and outside the Senate, were angry when opponents of the "yellow dog" jurist said Supreme Court justices are guided by their economic views.

This was considered a reflection on the court by men who are now silent when the same charge is made by members of that court.

The charge was made on May 26 by Justice Holmes and concurred in by Justices Brandeis and Stone in the case of Baldwin versus State of Missouri.

The Missouri State Supreme Court upheld a Missouri law which placed an inheritance tax on the estate of an Illinois citizen who had bank deposits in Missouri.

The United States Supreme Court set aside the decision, by a 6-to-3 vote.

Justice Holmes, in the dissenting opinion, said:

"I have not yet adequately expressed the more than anxiety that I feel at the ever-increasing scope given to the Fourteenth Amendment in cutting down what I believe to be the constitutional rights of the States.

"As the decisions now stand I see hardly any limit but the sky to the invalidating of those rights if they happen to have a majority of this court as for any reason undesirable.

"I am not believe that the amendment was intended to give us carte blanche to embody our economic or moral beliefs in its prohibition."

Senator Glass of Virginia, who voted for Judge Parker, called attention to the statement of Justice Holmes and his two colleagues.

"I think," said Senator Glass, "there never has been uttered on the floor of the Senate a more complete characterization of this tendency of the court than is here uttered by Mr. Justice Holmes; and I await for some Senator rising in his place and saying that Mr. Justice Holmes and his two associates, Messrs. Brandeis and Stone, have made an assault upon the Supreme Court of the United States."

MILK DRIVERS UNITE

Philadelphia, June 7.—More than 100 milk drivers have received a charter from the International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

ROOSEVELT MEDAL TO PRESIDENT GREEN

New York, June 7.—James A. Garfield, president Roosevelt Memorial Association, announced that the medals of the organization for 1930 have been awarded to William Green, president A. F. of L., for his efforts in behalf of co-operation in industry; to Rear Admiral Richard E. Byrd for his polar explorations, and to Hastings Hart, president American Prison Association, for his work in penology.

The medals will be presented to the three men October 27, the centennial anniversary of the former President's birth.

"As president of the American Federation of Labor," says the citation of Mr. Green, "he has both symbolized and directed the policy of co-operation in industry, representing the American concept of industrial peace and self-reliance and fighting with success the disruptive influence of the radical element preaching Communism and class war." In a period of unrest and readjustment he has prevented conflict and at the same time strengthened the position of the trade union in the social order."

MUSSOLINI UNMASKED; IS MAKING WAR TALKS

New York, June 7.—Mussolini has discarded peace pretenses and is making foreign war talks throughout Italy, while his ambassadors assure the world that Mussolini abhors war.

Foreign news correspondents, who have praised the dictator, are compelled to explain his jingo policy that would increase the tension between France and Italy. Practically every other Continental country is affected.

Territory, now occupied by France and her allies, is sought by Italy. Another objective is to make the Adriatic Sea an Italian lake.

The French press is filled with anti-Italian sentiment. Cables from Europe indicate that no one seriously believes there will be a war, but Mussolini's ranting shows what he would do if he had the necessary power.

Italy, as present considered, is not a first-class country. She lacks coal, iron and oil, and must import wheat. She must depend in large measure upon Great Britain, for if that country closed the Straits of Gibraltar and the Suez Canal the flow of food and raw material to Italy would be stopped.

OLD-AGE RELIEF PLAN PASSED BY BAY STATE

Boston, June 7.—The State Legislature passed an old-age assistance bill. The measure is in no sense a pension bill and merely provides that a worker over 65, who has reached the age of 70, will be given "adequate assistance" on application to authorized officials.

Friends of old-age pensions opposed the bill, but could not push it at the closing days of the legislature. They will urge amendments at the next session and are confident that a workable measure can be secured in a few years.

BRITAIN DISTURBED BY IDLENESS GROWTH

London, June 7.—Britain is worried over the growth of unemployment. The number of idle is now 1,759,500, an advance of 20,000 in one week.

There is no sign of recovery in the week's trade reports, and such basic industries as coal, textiles, iron and steel continue to be depressed.

The situation has become so acute that industrialists are accepting the opinion that unemployment should be considered a national emergency.

IDLENESS HARMS MORALE!

New York, June 7.—The tragedy of unemployment lies in its devastating effect upon the morale of idle workers, said Whiting Williams, author and lecturer on industrial problems, in an address to a convention of business women.